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## THE S.D.S. NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1 No. 1

Published by Concordia University Services for Disabled Students

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One of the ever increasing problems of a university the size of Concordia is the difficulty in communication and information sharing. In an area such as the Services for Disabled Students which is directed at a population as diverse in needs as in personality and ability, it is a constant challenge.

This Newsletter is an attempt to promulgate relevant, current and interesting pieces of information to our students. Within the Services for Disabled Students we strive to provide services and resources needed to support students with special needs at Concordia. We are part of a complex system of university services. As most students at the university may need a support system, be it financial aid, legal counsel, guidance services, academic assistance, medical aid, etc. students with disabilities are entitled to services which are particular to their situation.

Part of the mandate of Services for Disabled Students is to coordinate direct services on both campuses and to assist faculty and staff in accommodating disabled students both within the classroom and throughout the university.

Each year we strive to improve and re-examine our services. This year we will be highlighting special programs in Sign Language, training workshops in Wordprocessing and Versabraille and an emphasis on our Volunteer Program. However, our constant mandate is to respond to the challenge of integrating students into all programs, faculties and services at Concordia. Your comments, criticisms and contributions to this newsletter will help to build this program.

Ann Kerby, Coordinator, Services for Disabled Students

October 1, 1987





## THE GOALS OF THE SERVICE

THE SERVICES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS ATTEMPTS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, PROGRAMMES, RESOURCES AND AUXILIARY AIDS NECESSARY TO ALLOW EACH DISABLED STUDENT THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OF PURSUING HIS/HER EDUCATION AT CONCORDIA.

## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations are in order for several of Concordia's disabled students who have achieved academic recognition and received scholarships from various organisations. The winners are: John Diakogeorgiou, Tina Mintz, Yvon Provencher, Lindsay Cowell-Plain and Rajesh Malik. Well done and keep up the good work.

## OFFICE HOURS

Ann Kerby

Assistant to Dean of Students and  
Coordinator of Services for Disabled  
Students

9:00 - 17:00 Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays  
at Loyola and 9:00 - 17:00 Wednesdays &  
Thursdays at S.G.W., or by appointment

Leo Bissonnette

Assistant Coordinator Services for  
Disabled Students

9:00 - 17:00 Mondays, Wednesdays, Thurs-  
days & Fridays at Loyola and 9:00 - 13:00  
Tuesdays at S.G.W. or by appointment.

Angela Ghadban

Secretary of Services for Disabled  
Students

is at Loyola Monday to Friday, 9:00-  
17:00.

Nelly Trakas

Information Officer, Centre for Dis-  
abled Students

is available at S.G.W. 9:00 - 17:00,  
Mondays - Thursdays; Tuesdays 10:00-  
18:30.

Doreen Ferland

Volunteer, Centre for Disabled Students

is available at S.G.W.

## EVENTS

### S.D.S. Premiered N.F.B. Film

Services for Disabled Students was proud to hold the free premiere screening of the National Film Board documentary, "The Impossible Takes a Little Longer".

This film, sponsored by the Status of Women and S.D.S.,

profiled the lives of selected disabled women in the work place and was presented September 30, of the Hall Building at 19:00. The film was subtitled in English and utilised an infra red system for the hearing impaired.

A panel discussion followed the film with Marie Barile, Coordinator DAWN, Maire Trudeau, Dir. Que. Paraplegic Assn., Anne Henderson, film director and Margo Ouimet, associate film director moderated

by Ann Kerby. Opening remarks and panel discussion were signed in A.S.L. by Liz Scully. Hopefully, the services provided at this screening will soon become the standard rather than the exception.



## **Lacolle Weekend**

The Services for Disabled Students will be holding a weekend getaway **October 23-25** at the University's retreat in Lacolle. One of our goals will be to discuss and evaluate

our present services. There will also be an informal gathering where old students, new students, volunteers and staff can become more acquainted - a

weekend of fun food and discussion.

Disabled students and volunteers interested in joining in this weekend and/or helping plan it please drop by our

services at either campus or call **Nelly at 848-3524**. Hope you can make it!

## **WORKSHOPS**

### **Sign Language Workshop**

The aim of this workshop is to provide an opportunity to learn an interesting visual language while at the same time provide information on deafness and the deaf culture. Workshops start **October 6, 1987** and end **December 8, 1987**. Introductory level will be offered **Tuesdays 18:15 - 20:00** and **Level 1** on **Tuesdays 20:15 -**

**22:15** on the S.G.W. campus. The fee is **\$50** for Concordia students. The instructor is **Jill Womack**.

We will also be offering workshops in the second term. Waiting lists are already started so call as soon as possible, at **848-3524** or **848-3536**.

### **Word Processing Workshop**

The goal of this workshop is to provide students with a thorough understanding of **WordPerfect 4.1** on the **I.B.M.** personal computer. This course is also open to students with **Learning Disabilities**. Those who are interested will be asked to provide convenient times of availability, where upon a general consensus will be

taken and a time will be established. The workshop should commence some time around **October/November** and will be offered at the **Loyola campus only**. The fee is **\$85**. The instructor will be **Leo A. Bissonnette**, Assistant Coordinator Services for Disabled Students.

## **SUPPORT GROUPS**

### **Liaison / Self-Support Group**

Any new disabled students interested in meeting with other disabled students to share information and learn more about the ropes of the University please contact us and we will put

you in touch with each other.

Disabled students interested in participating in this self support group please contact us. Your knowledge is valuable!

### **MS Peer Support Group**

We are interested in starting a **Multiple Sclerosis Peer Support Group**. Anyone interested please call **848-3524**.

**MS**



# !!! GENERAL INFORMATION !!!

## Fall Convocation

Fall convocation is scheduled for November 30 at Place des Arts. Any students who require special assistance at the ceremony, please call Ann at 848-3501 so the necessary arrangements can be made.

## Volunteers

Volunteer readers, transcribers, note takers, library assistants, etc. are available through the S.D.S. at both campuses. If you require assistance make your needs known as early as possible so that appropriate accommodations can be arranged.

Volunteers are currently needed to tutor in MATH 204 - Vectors and Matrices and PSYC 315 - Statistical Analysis - Experimental Psychology I, MATH 203 - Differential and Integral Calculus I, PHYS 204 - Mechanics. If available, please call 848-3524 or 848-3503.

## GENERAL EVACUATION PROCEDURE - DISABLED STUDENTS

### 1) HALL BUILDING

1.1) The freight elevators are to be used when possible. The elevators will be manually operated.

- a) Disabled persons are to go to the freight elevator and wait to be picked up.
- b) They are to exit the elevator at the mezzanine on the second floor.
- c) Monitors and Security will meet the disabled person on the mezzanine and assist them to exit the building at the Mackay Street door and assemble in the PR annex at 2100 Mackay.

NOTE: IF THE FREIGHT ELEVATOR DOES NOT COME OR IS OUT OF ORDER, EXIT AS PER INSTRUCTIONS IN 2) BELOW "ALL OTHER BUILDINGS".

### 2) ALL OTHER BUILDINGS

2.1) Disabled persons are to be evacuated by the stairwells with the assistance of monitors or other volunteers.

NOTE: ELEVATORS MUST NOT BE USED BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT EQUIPPED WITH EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEMS.

2.2) Generally, wheelchairs should not be carried down the stairs.

## Accessibility Guide

The Accessibility Guide attempts to provide a selective road-map to the more than 75 buildings that make up the two campuses of Concordia University.	given for major buildings with facilities such as washrooms listed in all cases. Elevator keys and parking permits can be arranged through our services.	assignments and renovations are made throughout the year. Current information is available in the Services for Disabled Students offices.	ience and ours, if you come across any inaccessible areas i.e. classrooms, washrooms,...
Floor by floor descriptions are	Changes in space	For your conven-	please report these areas to us as soon as possible so we can note the changes in the revised



edition for January.

Master copies and extra copies of the "A" Guide are available at both campuses.

N.B. Changes Already In Effect:

Ramps have been placed in Hingston Hall Rooms 130 and 132. These rooms are now wheelchair accessible.

A major move is taking place in

Health Services on the S.G.W. campus. The Service will be moving to the ER building - 2155 Guy Street, Room 407- in mid-October making their ser-

vices barrier free and wheelchair accessible. Congratulations Health Services.

### **Libraries**

Disabled students have access to all Concordia libraries. Students requiring assistance in the stacks should inquire at the circulation desk or with the resource librarians. Inter-campus delivery and inter-library

loan services can save a lot of time and energy. Staff and volunteers are available for extra assistance. If the elevator in the Norris Building is non-functional- which is common- and you are unable

to get to the 6th floor, please don't wait for the elevator to become functional, do yourself a favour and call us!

If you are visually impaired and you have a research paper due November

don't call us two days before the due date. Make arrangements early in the semester, in order for us to provide you with the appropriate help.

## **REMINDER OF SOME OF THE SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FROM S.D.S.**

- Elevator keys and Parking Permits can be obtained by contacting either of the two offices
- Accessibility Maps of the University
- Evacuation procedures are available on tape and braille for the visually impaired.
- Examination assistance can be provided for faculty and students
- A wide range of pamphlets concerning services, organisations, and specialised equipment is available at the Centre, S.G.W. campus.
- Financial Aid information and referral can be found at both campuses
- Equipment from tape recorders, typewriters and personal FM systems, to voice adapted I.B.M. and Apple Computers. Our newest addition is our I.B.M. compatible Axes personal computer available at the Centre downtown. Computer time for those who have no other means of writing a paper or other assignment can be arranged through the Centre. Call Nelly at 848-3524. Please note, priority will be given to students with motor skills dysfunctions and learning disabilities.



## LEONARDO DA VINCI EXHIBIT MONTREAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Free tickets to this spectacular exhibit are available to all our students compliments of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Contact Nelly at S.G.W or Angela at Loyola for more information. The museum is fully wheelchair accessible.

### INVITATION FOR SUBMISSIONS

Now that you have read the first newsletter for the 1987-1988 year, feel free to write articles for submission that might be of interest to other disabled students. Consider this as your forum for sharing

information. Future editions are planned but outside input makes this periodical more dynamic. So come on, share your information and ideas.

#### STAFF FOR THIS ISSUE

DOREEN FERLAND

DANIEL LAMB

NELLY TRAKAS